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of deflecting to conform to the wearer's face and being capable of being rolled into a relatively small volume for storage on the flight deck of an aircraft.

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Claims 2, 11 and 18 have been cancelled, and new Claims 22 and 23 have been added. Claims 1, 3-10, 12-17 and 19-23 remain pending in this application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3-10, 12-17 and 19-21 were rejected as obvious from Aulgur, et al. in view of Eros MAGIC quick-donning mask and Levine et al. Levine et al. was cited as teaching an aviation mask with a foldable lens for stowage at Col. 4, lines 19+. That passage states, "The smoke mask, designated by numeral 26, has a window portion 28 and is of a type which is foldable for storage in a compartment 32 in the seat 22d in front of the passenger 24." It is clear from this passage and a complete reading of Levine et al. that Levine et al. teaches a foldable mask, and does not teach any kind of a foldable or flexible lens. This is evident from examination of Figure 10 of Levine et al., illustrating the shape of storage of compartment 32 in which the foldable mask is to be stored. From Figure 10 of Levine et al., it is clear that what is foldable are the portions of the mask which overlies the chest and shoulders of the passenger.

Claim 1 recites, "said flexible face seal and said flexible optical lens being of sufficient flexibility to allow said mask to be rolled for storage." Similarly, Claim 8 recites, "said oxygen mask being capable, by virtue of the flexible lens and flexible face seal, of being rolled into a relatively small volume for storage on the flight deck of an aircraft." New Claim 22 recites, "said flexible optical lens and said flexible face seal being capable of deflecting to conform to the wearer's face and for storage," and new Claim 23 recites, "said oxygen mask being capable of deflecting to conform to the wearer's face and being capable of being rolled into a relatively small volume for storage on the flight deck of an aircraft."

Levine et al. does not teach, disclose, suggest, or provide any incentive for provision of a flexible lens that can be deflected to conform to a wearer's face as is illustrated in Fig. 7 for example, and as is described in the specification at page 9 line 24 to page 10 line 23, page 10 line 34 to page 11 line 1, and page 11, lines 5-25. Neither does Levine et al. teach, disclose, suggest, or provide any incentive for provision of a flexible lens that can be deflected or rolled for storage, as is claimed, and as is described in the specification at page 9, lines 9-23 with reference to Fig. 3.

Furthermore, Claim 15 recites an oxygen mask comprising "a combination face seal and flexible lens molded as a single unit," which is not taught by any of the references cited. It is

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therefore respectfully submitted that the rejection of the claims on the grounds of obviousness should be withdrawn.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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